Claims

Having thus described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A video contents access method that uses trajectories of objects, comprising the steps of: extracting objects from video contents; displaying the movements of said objects as trajectories on a specific projection screen; specifying locations along said trajectories; and accessing a desired scene contained in said video contents.

2. The video contents access method according to claim 1, wherein said trajectories of said objects are those displayed, in order with time for video contents, in a time interval between a currently displayed video frame and a preceding video frame displayed a predetermined time period earlier.

3. The video contents access method according to claim 1, wherein a user can control the speed at which said trajectories of said objects are displayed.

4. The video contents access method according to claim 1, wherein a scale (play advantage) for representing an important scene is displayed with said trajectories of said objects on a projection screen.

5. The video contents access method according to claim 1, wherein said trajectories (Traj) of said objects are calculated by using the following equation:

4 Traj = (object ID, start time, end time, line graph
5 representation).

1 6. The video contents access method according to claim
2 1, wherein video data are digital video data, or analog
3 video data that can manage time code.

1 7. The video contents access method according to claim
2 1, further comprising: displaying on the same projection
3 screen a window in which images of said contents of said
4 video are displayed and a window in which said
5 trajectories of said objects are displayed.

1 8. The video contents access method according to claim
2 1, wherein to specify said locations along said
3 trajectories, a pointing device is used to designate
4 points along said trajectories.

1 9. The video contents access method according to claim
2 1, wherein a plurality of video contents are used.

1 10. A video contents access apparatus comprising: display
2 means for displaying as trajectories on a specific
3 projection screen, the movements of objects extracted
4 from video contents; and instruction means for specifying
5 locations along said trajectories, wherein locations
6 along said trajectories are specified by said instruction
7 means to access a desired scene in said video contents.